

Summary of examination Col. L.T. Ride, C.B.E.

duly sworn states:-

I am 48 years of age, of BRITISH Nationality, and born at NEWSTEAD, VICTORIA.

My permanent home is "THE ESPLANADE" Mornington, VICTORIA.

I am at present living at.....

During the fighting in December, 1941, in Hong Kong, I was Lt. Col., commanding Hong Kong Field Ambulance.

After the surrender of Hong Kong on 25th December, 1941, I attempted many times to get permission from the Japanese to search the hills for our wounded. Permission was consistently refused until on 29th December, I was given a permit by a local area commander to go to Stanley to collect wounded. I went first to YONG NEI CHONG Gap area, and in the area just south of the Gap, counted over 50 bodies of our dead. Many of them had their hands and feet tied, and many had bayonet stabs or sword wounds, mostly in their backs. One or two had had their heads smashed in. At "The Ridge" Repulse Bay Road, about a dozen bodies had been thrown over a retaining wall between the two houses, their hands still tied behind their backs. There were both Naval and Army personnel and the majority had no identity discs. I took the records of those with discs, but these notes were unfortunately captured by a Japanese patrol at LO NGAI SWI in Eastern Kwantung on 17th January 1942, during my escape from the Colony. I can remember the names of only two of the victims: one was Lt. Col. MACLACHLAIN, D.A.C.O.S. who was wearing his identity disc with his old rank and regiment - Captain, Royal Scots. His body was lying face down, the hands still together behind his back. The forearms and hands were very swollen, excepting for a narrow groove around the wrists, indicating that thin rope that had tied the wrists had been removed some time after death. His head had been bashed in on one side. The other body was of Mr. Pinson, and it was lying in his house. I can remember no indication on his body as to the cause of death.

On the steps leading to Lyon light No. 1115 by the roadside, west of Deep Water Bay, were the bodies of 6 Middlesex O.Rs. recognisable by their hose tops. Their hands and feet were still tied. There were large blood stains on the cutting and the roadside on the opposite side of the road, and streaks of blood stretching from this, across the road to the steps where the bodies lay in a heap. Their heads had been almost completely severed by sword cuts.

(Sgd.).....Col.

Sworn before me.....(Major)
MR CRIMES INVESTIGATION UNIT
HONG KONG

This..... day of 1946

Detailed to examine the above by the Commander-in-Chief,
Allied Land Forces, South East Asia.

(Authority:- ALFSEA War Crimes Instruction No.1. para 7)

Certified true Copy of signed statement held by War Crimes Registry No ALFSEA and seen by me..... R.C. COOPER Lt. Col.

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AIR CRIMES INVESTIGATION UNIT
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